Attorney Docket No.: 080404.52840US

PATENT

REMARKS

Entry of the amendments to the specification before examination of the application is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Crowell & Moring, LLP, P.L.L.C., Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket # 080404.52840US).

Respectfully submitted,

November 5, 2003

Registration No. 29,004

CROWELL & MORING, LLP

P.O. Box 14300

Washington, DC 20044-4300

Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500

VJS:adb